



00862.002821

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

TAKAHIRO MATSUURA

Application No.: 09/305,313

Filed: May 5, 1999

For: IMAGE PROCESSING
APPARATUS AND METHOD

Examiner: C.M. LaRose

Group Art Unit: 2623

August 15, 2002

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Technology Center 2600

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the document identified on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of that document is also enclosed, together with a copy of a June 18, 2002, Japanese Office Action citing that document.

The sole item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in any counterpart foreign application within the three months immediately preceding the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

For the brief statement of relevance, the Examiner is respectfully referred to the English abstract submitted herewith; Applicant also submits the following comment.

The cited Kokai 10-208034 relates to a system in which a frame having black, white or a specific color is detected, and a conversion table is generated using pixel values of a conversion table of an image not including the detected frame. Applicant

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submits that nothing in that document would teach or suggest detection of a frame image with gradation, or detection of a plurality of photographic image portions excluding a frame image.

Please charge any fee due in connection with the filing of this paper, and credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account 06-1205.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

21 P. Diana
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